

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 334
By Rinks

A RESOLUTION to honor Truman Clark of Happy Valley,
Tennessee for meritorious service on the
Tennessee Advisory Commission on
Intergovernmental Relations.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body should pause to honor members of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, upon completion of their terms, who have performed their duties with the utmost integrity and whose efforts have ensured proper attention to myriad issues in fulfillment of the Commission's mission to serve as a forum for the discussion and resolution of intergovernmental problems, to provide high-quality research support to state and local government officials in order to improve the overall quality of government in Tennessee, and to improve the effectiveness of the intergovernmental system to better serve the citizens of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Truman Clark is a native of Happy Valley, Tennessee, who received his Industrial Arts Degree with a minor in Mathematics from East Tennessee State University, where he was the Reserve Officer Training Candidate program's top student, and after which he spent three years in the U.S. Army; and

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WHEREAS, after twenty years working in his family's lumber business, he entered public service upon his election to the Carter County Commission in 1972, and after serving in that capacity for six years between 1972 and 1982, he was elected Carter County Executive and immediately set about putting the county budget on sound fiscal ground; and

WHEREAS, during his twenty years as County Executive, Mr. Clark pulled Carter County out of financial trouble and worked to keep Carter County's property tax rate among the area's lowest, while building two new schools and remodeling several others in the county; and

WHEREAS, Truman Clark laid the groundwork for creation of the Watauga River Regional Water Authority to plan and develop the water resources of the geographic region represented by Carter County, the North Elizabethton Utility District, the First Utility District, the Siam Utility District, the Hampton Utility District, the Roan Mountain Utility District, and the South Elizabethton Utility District; and

WHEREAS, while distinguishing himself in service to his community as County Executive, Truman Clark was appointed to the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations to represent his fellow elected county officials and served with honor and distinction in that capacity for more than fifteen years, leading to his election to the post of Vice Chairman in 1991, the duties of which he fulfilled for twelve years with supreme integrity and devotion; and

WHEREAS, while serving as Vice Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Clark chaired the committee of the Commission that researched the difficult and complex issue of local government tort liability limits at the request of the General Assembly and developed a proposal that became the basis of legislation updating such limits and providing for reasonable and fair future increases in 2001; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Truman Clark for his countless

contributions to the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations for more than fifteen years and for his honorable and dedicated service to the good people of this great State.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.